

Hark, the Herald Angels Green, Glory to Recycling!

Americans throw away 25% more trash during the Thanksgiving to New Year's holiday period than they do the rest of the year. That's an extra 1 million tons of trash per week! This holiday season, challenge yourself to use less and produce less; reduce, reuse, recycle, rethink!

Zero to Less Waste Gift Ideas

- Homemade gifts are meaningful! How about baking cookies for all the neighbors or presenting a good friend or family member with a certificate for a home cooked meal that you make for them in their home?
- Nonmaterial gifts can make a big impression. Give tickets to movies, concerts, or plays. Make a charitable donation in someone's name.
- When you do go shopping, bring your own tote bag so that you don't use a new paper or plastic bag for your purchased item.
- Buy durable, useful, thoughtful gifts!



Wrapping paper is filled with chemical dyes and contributes to the excess amounts of trash produced at the holiday season. Be creative!

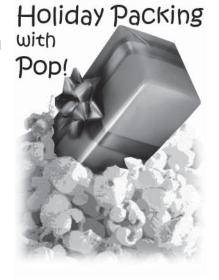
- Wrap gifts in a fabric, drawstring bag.
- Decorate an unwrapped gift with reused ribbons or dried grasses and flowers.
- Use a knit hat to wrap a gift, or a pretty dishtowel, a flour sack, or a bandana.
- Use old calendar photos to wrap smaller gifts, or how about an old map? Use blueprints, grocery bags that you've decorated with fruit or vegetable prints, or the comics section.
- If you do buy wrapping paper, make sure it's recycled content wrapping paper.
- Shipping a fragile gift? Instead of Styrofoam packing peanuts, use unbuttered popcorn.
- Drop off extra packaging materials at private mailing centers such as Mailboxes Etc.

Oh, Christmas Tree

Consider buying a live tree. They're fresh, they smell great, and they can be planted outside after the season or kept indoors in a large pot and used over and over again every holiday season. If you do buy a cut tree, remember these points when it's time to send it on its way:

- Flocked trees can not be recycled!
- Remove all tinsel, lights, ornaments, and the tree stand before recycling.
- If you have curbside collection service, take the tree out to the curb on your regular greenwaste recycling day. If the tree is over 6' high, please cut into 6' lengths before placing at the curb.
- If you do not have curbside collection, you can still recycle your tree by taking it directly to your hauler.

For more excellent waste free holiday tips, see the "Use Less Stuff" website at: www.use-less-stuff.com. Select the "42 Ways to Trim Your Holiday Wasteline" link! For more information on recycling in Santa Barbara, see www.SBrecycles.org.





Holiday Safety Tips

Don't invite fire hazards into your home over the holidays. The City of Santa Barbara Fire Department offers these simple, household tips to help you celebrate safely this holiday season.



CHRISTMAS TREES

Check for color and scent. A fresh tree is deep green in color and has a strong scent of pine.

Be sure that the needles do not readily fall from the tree.

For pre-cut trees, make a new cut about one inch above the old cut.

Regularly check and maintain water levels for trees. Use a spray bottle to mist wreaths.

SPACE HEATERS

Allow at least three feet of clearance between heaters and furniture, drapes, or other flammable materials.

Never place furniture directly over or in front of heating vents.

Vacuum to remove fine dust and cob webs which can block vents and cause over-heating.

Call your electric or gas utility company if you have questions about your heating appliances.

CANDLES

Never use candles on a tree, wreath, or near other flammable decorations.

Do not place lit candles on window sills where blinds, curtains, shades, or shutters can tip them over.

DECORATIVE LIGHTS

Use lights that are UL approved.

Check each light-set for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, and loose connections <u>before</u> plugging it into an electrical outlet. Replace as needed.

Do not overload electrical outlets.

Always turn off lights when leaving the room.



Did You Know...?

Advertising and direct marketing account for a whopping 86% of all postal mail by volume. That's according to *Waste News*, a trade publication for the waste management industry.

FY 2007 ANNUAL WATERFRONT PARKING PERMIT FEATURING A CLASSIC WOODY VAN DESIGN

Annual Waterfront Parking Permits go on sale December 1st. Available to the public and harbor slip holders, parking permits are convenient and economical (General--\$95.00; Slip holder--\$70). Purchasing is easy: General Permits are available any Waterfront at Parking Kiosk, "except Stearns Wharf"; Slip Holder Permits are available only at the Harbor Patrol Office. All parking permits are valid from the day of purchase through December 31. 2007 Parking Kiosks will accept cash or local checks with ID. Harbor Patrol Office will also accept Visa or Maste Card credit cards. more information. call Waterfront Parking at 897-1965 or 564-5523.





Garden Maintenance in the Sustainability Zone

In Episode 5 of the *Garden Wise Guys*, hosts Billy Goodnick and Owen Dell will show you everything you need to know about garden maintenance. A new page is turned in the history of the Wise Guys as they explore the outer limits of "the Sustainability Zone." A regular checkup on their sprinkler timer sends them back to the 1950s, years before the era of sustainable landscaping. They teach an uninformed gardener (and viewers) how to properly prune plants, deal with common pests, and water wisely. Whether it's a whitefly infestation, an overgrown shrub, or a broken sprinkler head – the Wise Guys have the maintenance solution. Will the wise guys ever find their way back to the present? You'll have to watch to find out! **Airs on Sundays at 9:00 PM on City TV, Channel 18.**

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Santa Barbara's mayor, city council, and city staff extend to you their best wishes for a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season.

"Inside Santa Barbara" on City-TV Channel 18

Airing December 6th - January 6th

Program Highlights

- Federal Channel Dredging
- Water Quality Report
- History 101: Santa Barbara Harbor
- Holiday Food: Giving to those in need
- Oak Park Bridge Update
- Live Homework Online
- The Nutcracker

For more information, contact City-TV Production Supervisor Tony Ruggieri at (805) 564-5311, or visit www.citytv18.com.

"Inside Santa Barbara"

New program begins

Wednesday, December 6th at 6:30 p.m.

Airs throughout the month
Monday 8 p.m.
Tuesday 5 p.m.
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
Saturday 9 p.m.
Sunday 10 p.m.

DIRECTORY OF CITY DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES

Area Code: (805)		City Hall, 735 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101		Website: www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov	
Airport Ainimal Control City Administrator City Attorney City Clerk City Employment City-TV Channel 18 Community Development Building & Safety	967.7111 963.1513 564.5305 564.5326 564.5309 564.5311 564.5502 564.5485	Parks and Recreation Adapted Recreation Adult Sports Aquatics Community Services Creeks and Water Quality Cultural Arts Golf Senior Recreation Services	564.5418 564.5421 564.5422 897.2680 963.7567 897.2658 897.1982 687.7087 897.2519	Distribution & Collection Water & Sewer Mains After Hours El Estero Wastewater Plant Engineering Graffiti Hotline Permit Counter Pot Hole Hotline Recycling	564.5413 963.4286
Housing & Redevelopment Planning Finance	564.5461 564.5470 564.5334	Street Trees Teen Programs Tennis	564.5434 897.2650 564.5517	Shopping Cart Hotline Street Light Hotline Street Maintenance	1.800.252.4613 564.5416 564.5413
Business Licenses Purchasing Water Billing	564.5346 564.5349 564.5343	Youth Activities Police Emergency Use	564.5495 897.2300 9-1-1	Traffic Signal Hotline Transportation Operations Transportation Planning	564.5417 564.5394 564.5385
Fire (non-emergency use) Library Eastside Branch Mayor and Council	965.5254 962.7653 963.3727 564.5318	Non-Emergency Use Public Works ABOP Hotline* Cater Water Treatment Plant Downtown Parking	897.2300 564.5377 560.7505 897.2628 963.1581	Trash Complaints Water Conservation Hotline Water Resources Admin. Waterfront Harbor Patrol	564.5669 564.5460 564.5387 564.5531 564.5530
*Antifreeze, Batteries, Used Motor Oil and Filters, Latex Paints Parking					564.5523